

## **Mendocino National Forest Project Approval**

***Programmatic Agreement among the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5), the California State Historic Preservation Officer, the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding Processes for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for Management of Historic Properties by the National Forest of the Pacific Southwest Region (Amendment 1: Regional PA 2018)***

**Undertaking:** Plaskett-Keller Restoration, Phase I

**Case No.:** R2021050800024

**To:** Grindstone and Covelo District Planners

**Project Description:** Mendocino National Forest staff propose roadside hazard tree abatement and salvage of fire-killed and fire-injured trees from the 2020 August Complex Fire. Proposed activities would take place on the Covelo and Grindstone Ranger Districts of the Mendocino National Forest in Mendocino and Glenn Counties of California within Townships 21 and 22N, Ranges 8, 9 and 10W, Mount Diablo Base Meridian. The proposed actions include timber salvage units, roadside hazard tree removal, as well as fuels treatments, and research on 2,163 acres. Of this, 1,173 acres would be made available for salvage logging while remaining fuels would be disposed of on site (e.g., pile burning) or through biomass removal. These treatments are intended to reduce current and future fuel loading, reduce wildfire risk, improve resiliency to fire, and protect legacy components of the project area.

**Type of Survey:** Intensive

**Historic Properties Identified:** A total of 34 sites are in or directly adjacent to the project area of potential effects (APE). Thirty-two of these were previously recorded and two new sites were recorded in 2021. Six of these sites have been evaluated and determined not eligible for the National Register and require no protection measures other than post implementation monitoring.

**Standard Resource Protection Measures:** All sites which have not been determined ineligible for the National Register (n=28) will be flagged for avoidance (SPM 1.1) using orange and white diagonal striped flagging ribbon. Project implementors will be notified of their presence (SPM 1.3(2)) and all sites will be monitored after implementation to insure they were protected. Any on-site protections (Class II) for the removal of timber within site boundaries can only be implemented if the District Archaeologists (or their proxies) are present. Many of these sites may not be able to accommodate Class II protections as they may have sensitive features which would be compromised if timber is removed from their boundaries. Class II protection measures must conform to criteria in 2.2(a)(1, 3, 5) if allowed at all. Project implementors shall contact the appropriate District Archaeologist prior to implementation to insure sites are flagged and any monitoring requirements are worked out. Sites in the vicinity of Plaskett Meadows may require tribal monitoring as well.

If new archaeological remains are located during project implementation, project activities will halt until the district archaeologist can assess the situation.

**Table 1. Approved Standard Protection Measures: RPA: Appendix E**

FS Site #	Smithsonian Trinomial	1.1	1.1(a)(1)	1.3(2)	1.4	1.5	Class II
05085300042*	CA-GLE-250	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300051*	CA-GLE-136	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300078*	CA-GLE-140	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300079* Not Eligible	CA-GLE-252					X	
05085300083*	CA-GLE-142	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300084*	CA-GLE-143/H	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300085*	CA-GLE-144	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300088*	CA-GLE-147/H	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300089*	CA-GLE-148	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300153*	CA-GLE-183	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300154* Not Eligible	CA-GLE-184					X	
05085300155*	CA-GLE-121	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300156*	CA-GLE-185	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300158*	CA-GLE-186/H	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300164	CA-GLE-187	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300166*	CA-GLE-125	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300246* Not Eligible	CA-GLE-274					X	
05085300283 Not Eligible	CA-GLE-496					X	
05085300284	CA-GLE-497/H	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300285*	CA-GLE-518/H	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300311*	CA-GLE-584	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300313	CA-GLE-222	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300465	None	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085300520* Not Eligible	None					X	
05085600013*	CA-GLE-119	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085600043 Not Eligible	Not Requested					X	
05085600113*	CA-GLE-203	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085600404	CA-GLE-282	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085600408	CA-GLE-283	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085600424*	CA-GLE-284	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085600679*	Requested	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085600680*	Requested	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)

05085600757	New Site	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)
05085600758*	New Site	X		X		X	2.2(a)(2,3,4,5)

(Not Eligible) = Note: Ineligible sites may be monitored after implementation to confirm eligibility assessment.

(\*) = Note: Roadside Sites associated with access routes cannot be bladed.

1.1 = Flag and avoid

1.1(a) = Flag, avoid, and use buffer zone (enter size)

1.3(2) = Notify project planner, manager, and/or implementer (site locations)

1.4 = Protect through project modification, redesign, or elimination

1.5 = Monitoring (**during** project implementation)

2.0 = Class II: On-site Historic Property Protection Measures (cite category)

2.2 (a) Felling and removal of hazard, salvage, and other trees within historic properties under the following conditions:

(1) Trees may be limbed or topped to prevent soil gouging during felling;

(3) Felled trees may be removed using only the following techniques: hand bucking, including use of chain saws, and hand carrying, rubber tired loader, crane/self-loader, helicopter, or other non-disturbing, HPM-approved methods;

(4) Equipment operators shall be briefed on the need to reduce ground disturbances (e.g., minimizing turns);

(5) No skidding nor tracked equipment shall be allowed within historic property boundaries; and

**Note:** Any on-site protection measures will require a heritage staff member to monitor during project operations (SPM 1.5). Site boundary flagging will be checked prior to proposed project implementation to ensure it is visible during project implementation.

This undertaking has been approved in accordance with stipulations in the *Programmatic Agreement among the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5), the California State Historic Preservation Officer, the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding Processes for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for Management of Historic Properties by the National Forest of the Pacific Southwest Region (Amendment 1: Regional PA 2018)*. The undertaking may be implemented as planned for historic properties provided any specified Standard Resource Protection Measures are also adopted. No additional measures are needed to identify or protect historic properties unless the undertaking's Area of Potential Effect (APE) is modified in ways that may have an effect on historic properties. If the APE is so modified, additional review and approval by the Forest Archaeologist is required.

/s/ Michael Dugas

12/03/2021

MICHAEL DUGAS

Date

Forest Archaeologist